

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

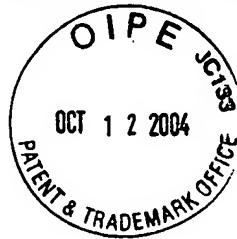
First Named Inventor : Todd M. Bjork et al.

Appln. No.: 10/681,480

Filed : October 8, 2003

For : SURGICAL CLAMP

Docket No.: M81.12-0065



Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS
BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS,
TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450,
THIS

6th DAY OF *October*,
2004

J. Palmer Smith
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.